

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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USDOCOSOUTH PRIORITY

CINCUSAREUR PRIORITY

CINCUSAFE PRIORITY

CINCUSNAVEUR PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 5137

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, DR, NATO

SUBJECT: GREECE-NATO-INFRASTRUCUTRE

REF: USNATO 5076

1. USNATO HAS LEARNED ON EXCELENT AUTHROTTY THAT NATO INTERNATIONAL STAFF NOW OPERATING UNDER FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS AFFECTING GREECE:

-) DEEP PROJECTS IN GREECE OFF THE AGENDAS OF INFRASTRUCTURE PAYMENTS AND PROGRESS COMMITTEE.

B) WHEN SPECIFIC ISSUES ARISE WHICH CANNOT BE POSTPONED, THE ITEM IS REFERRED TO SYG'S PRIVATE OFFICE WHICH THEN ATTEMPTS TO DELAY APPROVAL OF NEW PROJECT.

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2. INTERNATIONAL STAFF NOW ATTEMPTING CATEGORIZE VARIOUS INFRA-STRUCTURE FACILITIES IN GREECE UNDER THREE HEADINGS:

A) THOSE THAT SERVE ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY TO SUPPORT HELLENIC

ARMED FORCES;

B) THOSE THAT SERVE TO BIND ALLIES TOGETHER, THAT BENEFIT ALL ALLIES, AND THAT MIGHT EVEN CONTINUE TO FUNCTION WITH MANNING BY GREEK CIVILIANS, EXAMPLES: NADGE, NICS;

C) THOSE THAT PRIMARILY SUPPORT MILITARY EFFORTS OF OTHER ALLIED MILITARY FORCES: NAMFI, SOUDA BAY.

3. WHILE SYG LUNS MAY BE CORRECT IN ASSERTING THAT GOG WILL SOON FACE SOME HARD DECISIONS, OTHER ALLIED GOVERNMENTS MAY--IN VIEW OF INTERNATIONAL STAFF-- FIND THEMSELVES REQUIRED TO MAKE FISCAL DECISIONS THAT WILL HAVE POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES.

4. THUS, ON OCTOBER 3, THE INFRASTRUCTURE PAYMENTS AND PROGRESS COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL HAVE TO ADDRESS THE PROPOSED FOURTH QUARTER 1974 CONTRIBUTIONS TO BREECE FOR PROJECTS THE ALLIES APPROVED BEFORE REPEAT BEFORE GREECE ANNOUNCED ITS WITHDRAWAL FROM NATO.

THESE CONTRIBUTIONS WILL RUN FROM IAU 6.5 TO IAU9.0 (ROUGHLY 20 TO 30 MILLION DOLLARS). BY OCTOBER 3 OR VERY SOON THEREAFTER, ALLIED GOVERNMENT MUST DECIDE WHETHER TO CONTINUE PAYING FOR PROJECTS TO WHICH THEY EARLIER AGREED. GREECE(AS HOST NTION) IS APPARENTLY HOPING THAT ALLIES WILL CONTINUE TO PAY. CERTAIN CONTRACTORS HAVE ALREADY CONTACTED NATO INTERNATIONAL STAFF SEEKING CLARIFICATION SINCE FIRMS ARE WELL AWARE THAT SUMS THEY RECEIVE FROM GOG (AS HOST NATION) BASED ON CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OTHER ALLIES.

5. IT IS WORTH NOTING THAT , SINCE THE AUGUST RECESS ENDED, GREECE HAS CONTINUED TO SIT ON THE COMMITTEE AND HAS EVEN VOTED TO AUTHORIZE THREE TURKISH PROJECTS WORTH IAU 265,000 (ROUGHLY \$800,000).

6. COMMENT:
IN LIGHT OF LUNS' REMARKS ON SEPTEMBER 18 (USNATO 5076, PARA 3,), MISSION EXPECTS THAT ALLIES WILL SOON BEGIN TO FOCUS ON INFRASTRUCTURE PAYMENTS AND PROGRESS MEETING SCHEDULED FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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OCTOBER 3 WHERE ALLIED REPS WILL IN THE NORMAL COURSE OF EVENTS CLEAR ACCOUNTS AMONG PARTICIPATING NATIONS AND THEN SEVERALLY AUTHORIZE PAYMENTS IN DRACHMA TO BANK OF GREECE. (IN U.S. CASE, IF ALL PROCEEDS NORMALLY, USNATO WILL BE CALLED UPON ON OR ABOUT OCTOBER 15 TO AUTHORIZE FINANCE OFFICE OF NATO SHAPE SUPPORT GROUP TO PURCHASE PERHAPS AS MUCH AS 400 MILLION DRACHMA AND MAKE PAYMENT TO INFRASTRUCTURE ACCOUNT IN BANK OF GREECE.) USNATO HAS AS YET TAKEN NO SOUNDIGS TO DETERMINE WHETHER ALLIED GOVERNMENTS ARE PREPARED IN FIRST MEETING ON GREECE-NATO RELATIONSHIP:

1) TO AUTHORIZE NEW PROJECTS IN GREECE, AND/OR

2)TO CONTINUE TO MAKE PAYMENT ON APPLIES ONGOING

PROJECTS IN GREECE.

HOWEVER, WE CAN EXPECT: 1) THAT OTHER ALLIES WILL BE INFLUENCED BY U.S. POLICY; AND 2) THAT THE SOONER THAT U.S. DISCLOSES ITS GENERAL POLICY INTENT, THE GREATER OUR OPPORTUNITY TO SHAPE THE COURSE OF EVENTS.

7. ACTION REQUESTED:

GUIDANCE ON U.S. POLICY WITH RESPECT TO: 1) MAKING CONTINUING INFRASTRUCTURE PAYMENTS TO GOG ON APPROVED PROJECTS, AND 2) INITIATION OF NEW INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN GREECE.

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